

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Weekly Report
September 10, 1999

State Hospital Length-of-Stay in 13 States

This week's PIP broadens our ongoing examination of length-of-stay in inpatient facilities to include state hospitals in the Northeast region. Lengths-of-stay for all residents in state hospitals in 13 states on the last day of each fiscal year are reported for 1986 through 1998. (We expect to have FY1999 data for these states available by the end of the year.) It is important to keep in mind that the total state hospital census in all of these states decreased precipitously during the period under examination.

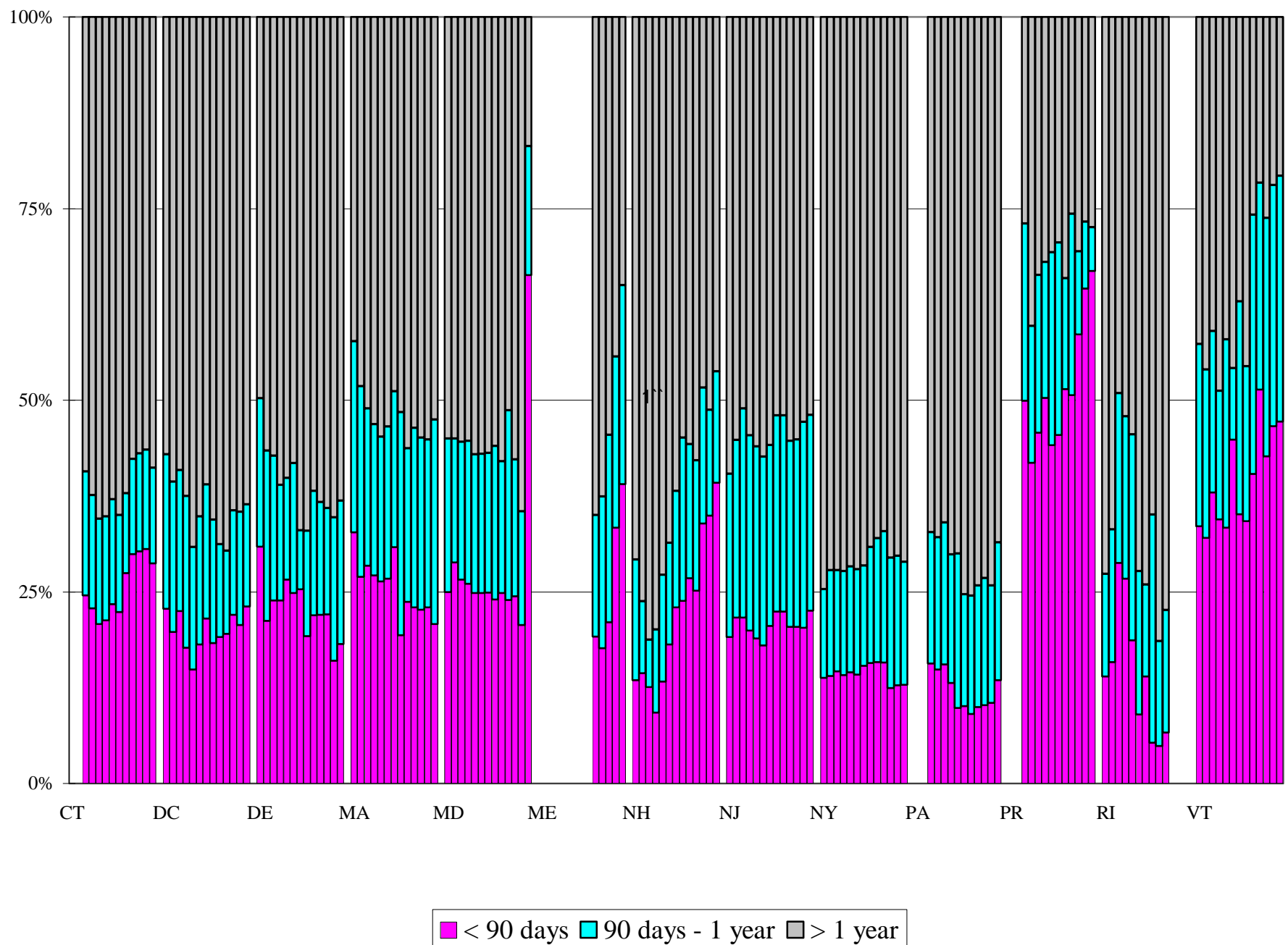
As you will see, the representation of long-stay patients (more than one year) in Vermont decreased substantially during this period. New Jersey and Maine also experienced a decrease in long-stay population, but most states had no change in the proportion of people who had been in their state hospitals for more than a year. The representation of long-stay patients in Rhode Island actually increased during the years for which data is available.

During this same time period, the proportion of Vermont State Hospital patients who had been in residence less than 90 days increased from about one-third in 1986 and 1987 to almost one-half in 1997 and 1998. Maine, New Jersey, and Puerto Rico experienced a similar growth in this population. In most states, however, there was no change in the representation of people who had been in residence for less than 90 days.

It is also noteworthy, that the Vermont State Hospital was much less of a long-stay institution than state hospitals in the other states throughout this period, and Vermont continues to have shorter lengths-of-stay than most other states. The single exception to this rule is Puerto Rico where the representation of short-stay patients is actually greater than in Vermont.

The current series of weekly PIPs on inpatient practice patterns, especially in terms of length-of-stay, continues to stimulate response from a number of quarters. We plan to continue with more reports in this area. We appreciate your interpretation of these data and your suggestions for further analysis. Please share both with us by calling 802-241-2638 or e-mailing to jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us.

State Mental Hospital Length of Stay Profiles: 1986 - 1998



State Hospital Length of Stay in 13 States

Patients in Residence: Last Day of Fiscal Years 1986-1998

Percent of Patients in Residence Less Than 90 Days													
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
CT	-	-	24%	23%	21%	21%	23%	22%	27%	30%	30%	31%	29%
DC	23%	20%	22%	18%	15%	18%	21%	18%	19%	19%	22%	21%	23%
DE	31%	21%	24%	24%	27%	25%	25%	19%	22%	22%	22%	16%	18%
MA	33%	27%	28%	27%	26%	27%	31%	19%	24%	23%	23%	23%	21%
MD	25%	29%	27%	26%	25%	25%	25%	24%	25%	24%	24%	21%	66%
ME	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19%	18%	21%	33%	39%
NH	13%	14%	13%	9%	13%	18%	23%	24%	27%	25%	34%	35%	39%
NJ	19%	22%	22%	20%	19%	18%	21%	22%	22%	20%	20%	20%	23%
NY	14%	14%	15%	14%	14%	14%	15%	16%	16%	16%	12%	13%	13%
PA	-	-	16%	15%	16%	13%	10%	10%	9%	10%	10%	10%	13%
PR	-	-	50%	42%	46%	50%	44%	45%	51%	51%	59%	65%	67%
RI	14%	16%	29%	27%	19%	9%	14%	5%	5%	7%	-	-	-
VT	34%	32%	38%	34%	33%	45%	35%	34%	40%	51%	43%	47%	47%

Percent of Patients in Residence 90 Days to One Year													
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
CT	-	-	16%	15%	14%	14%	14%	13%	10%	12%	13%	13%	13%
DC	20%	20%	18%	20%	16%	17%	18%	16%	12%	11%	14%	15%	13%
DE	19%	22%	19%	15%	13%	17%	8%	14%	16%	15%	14%	19%	19%
MA	25%	25%	21%	20%	19%	20%	20%	29%	20%	23%	23%	22%	27%
MD	20%	16%	18%	19%	18%	18%	18%	20%	17%	25%	18%	15%	17%
ME	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16%	20%	24%	22%	26%
NH	16%	9%	6%	11%	14%	13%	15%	21%	18%	17%	18%	14%	15%
NJ	21%	23%	27%	26%	25%	25%	24%	26%	26%	24%	24%	27%	26%
NY	12%	14%	13%	14%	14%	14%	13%	15%	16%	17%	17%	17%	16%
PA	-	-	17%	17%	19%	17%	20%	15%	15%	16%	17%	15%	18%
PR	-	-	23%	18%	21%	18%	25%	25%	15%	24%	11%	9%	6%
RI	13%	17%	22%	21%	27%	19%	12%	30%	14%	16%	-	-	-
VT	24%	22%	21%	17%	25%	9%	28%	20%	34%	27%	31%	32%	32%

Percent of Patients in Residence More Than One Year													
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
CT	-	-	59%	62%	65%	65%	63%	65%	62%	58%	57%	56%	59%
DC	57%	61%	59%	63%	69%	65%	61%	66%	69%	70%	64%	65%	64%
DE	50%	57%	57%	61%	60%	58%	67%	67%	62%	63%	64%	65%	63%
MA	42%	48%	51%	53%	55%	53%	49%	52%	56%	54%	55%	55%	53%
MD	55%	55%	55%	55%	57%	57%	57%	56%	58%	51%	58%	64%	17%
ME	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65%	63%	55%	44%	35%
NH	71%	76%	81%	80%	73%	69%	62%	55%	56%	58%	48%	51%	46%
NJ	60%	55%	51%	55%	56%	57%	56%	52%	52%	55%	55%	53%	52%
NY	75%	72%	72%	72%	72%	72%	72%	69%	68%	67%	71%	70%	71%
PA	-	-	67%	68%	66%	70%	70%	75%	76%	74%	73%	74%	69%
PR	-	-	27%	40%	34%	32%	31%	29%	34%	26%	31%	27%	27%
RI	73%	67%	49%	52%	54%	72%	74%	65%	81%	77%	-	-	-
VT	43%	46%	41%	49%	42%	46%	37%	46%	26%	22%	26%	22%	21%